GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:24
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2009
RESTRICTION ON IMPORT OF TOYS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently imposed a ban on the import of toys from China due to the reported toxic contamination;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the period for which such restrictions have been imposed; and

(d) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such imports and also to protect the indigenous industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI KAMAL NATH)

a)to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 24 FOR ANSWER ON 17TH FEBRUARY 2009 REGARDING " RESTRICTION ON IMPORT OF TOYS"

(a) to (d) Vide Notification No. 82 /(RE-2008) / 2004-2009 dated 23.1.2009, the Government has prohibited import of toys classified under ITC Codes 9501, 9502, 9503 from China for a period of six months. This prohibition on import of toys from China has been imposed in response to concerns of health and safety faced by users of Chinese toys. The prohibition is an interim measure during which the Government intends to examine the issue in detail, for notification of mandatory standards applicable on toys in India.

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has implemented a National Programme for development of Indian toy industry jointly with United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The programme sought to promote production of safe toys in India. Further, to promote export of toys, under the Foreign Trade Policy, toys have been included under the Focus Product Scheme.